



Radlett Art Society

Dear Member,

As your new Chairman, firstly, I would like to thank all the members who attended our AGM and voted for the new committee. We were much encouraged by the warm welcome and good wishes conveyed for our future work in the Society now in its 51st year,



Secondly, on behalf of all our members, I want to express our gratitude to the outgoing Chairman, **Carmen Beal** and Secretary **Pamela Knight** for their long years of dedicated and unstinting service maintaining and upholding the high standards of our Society. Your new Committee promises to carry on this good work and continue to further the aims and ambitions of this important Society in our community.

The year has started well with excellent lectures well attended on contrasting artists, reviews of which are reported in this newsletter. We look forward to the next controversial subjects planned for our summer lectures. Information as usual is on the inside pages.

Our two visits, first to **Canterbury Cathedral** in March, then **Uppark House** in April, (unfortunately not Hinton Ampner), were both interesting and enjoyed. I look forward to seeing some of you during the summer to join us on visits to **Oxburgh Hall (May)**, **Hever Castle (June)**. **Clarence House (August)** and **Snowhill Manor and Garden (September)**. Booking Forms enclosed.

The Painters continue busily at their Thursday workshop

Our **51st Summer Exhibition and Luncheon** is in the **Radlett Centre** from the **1st to the 8th July**. I hope to meet many of you who will be entering paintings and 3D items, helping with setting up and stewarding at this important event, as well as greeting visitors coming to appreciate and even maybe buy some of our members' works. Luncheon Application and Exhibition Entry forms enclosed.

Best wishes to all.

Garry Hersh.

FUTURE LECTURES at the Radlett Centre

FRANCIS BACON from the **GUTTER** to the **RITZ**



Lecturer **Frank Woodgate BA**

Francis Bacon (1909–1992) was born in Dublin), took up painting in his 20s, worked sporadically and uncertainly until his mid-30s.

Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion, the 1944 triptych was his breakthrough which, in the immediate aftermath of the Second World War, sealed his reputation as a uniquely bleak chronicler of the human condition.

The art critic **John Russell** observed that "*there was painting in England before the Three Studies, and painting after them, and no one...can confuse the two.*"

Thursday 11th May 7.30pm for 8pm

Admission: Members Free Non-Members £8. Coffee is available

ANTONY GORMLEY & ANISH KAPOOR

Lecturer: **Rosalind Whyte BA (HONS) MA**

Antony Gormley OBE RA.

Almost all of his work takes the human body as its subject, with his own body used in a number of works as the basis for metal casts. His work attempts to treat the body not as an object but a place.



Wildenstein New York

Anish Kapoor CBE RA.

Angel of the North Gateshead 1995

Acclaimed for his explorations of matter and non-matter, specifically evoking the void in free-standing sculptural works and ambitious installations. In 1987 he began working in stone. His later stone works are made of solid, quarried stone.

Thursday 15th June 7.30pm for 8pm

Admission: Members Free Non-Members £8. Coffee is available

PIETER BREUGHEL

Lecturer : **Dr. Colin Bailey, BA, PhD, FSA.**

Pieter Breughel the Elder was the greatest painter of **Dutch and Flemish Renaissance painting** in the 16th Century. His landscapes and scenes of peasants, of the ordinary day to day activities in village life were in great demand by his patrons, notably wealthy Flemish Merchants. His paintings show this affinity for his subjects in these detailed depictions of a way of life now gone but with people just the same as today



The Hunters in the Snow, 1565

Thursday 10th August 7.30pm for 8pm

Admission: Members Free Non-Members £8. Coffee is available

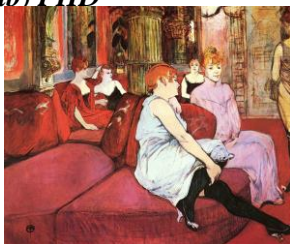
FUTURE LECTURES at the Radlett Centre

TOULOUSE-LAUTREC & MUSIC HALLS OF PARIS

Lecturer & Art Historian: **Dr. Peter Webb BA MA (Cantab) PHD**

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec is among the best known French painters of the *Post-Impressionist period*.

Drawn to *Montmartre*, that part of Paris famous for its bohemian life-style and the haunt of artists, writers and philosophers, he soon became immersed into its colourful, theatrical life, painting enticing, elegant and provocative images of the modern and sometimes of the decadent life of that era



Salon at the Rue des Moulins (1894)

Thursday 7th September 7.30pm for 8pm

Admission: Members Free Non-Members £8. Coffee is available

PAST LECTURES

Thursday 23rd February

Barry Venning BA MA lectured on

EDOUARD MANET AND HIS MILIEU

Édouard Manet, 1832-83 came from a well to do bourgeois family, studied under Thomas Couture. He consciously tried to evoke the high ideals of Renaissance art, mixing ancient and modern ideas; his work was widely condemned by the critics when first shown. His aim was to liberate artists from the doctrines of academic and literary subjects. He revered Velasquez, Titian, Goya and Hals, and developed a brilliant technique with much use of black. Later he was influenced by the Impressionists' lighter colours. At the end of his life he was given the Legion of Honour. Many museums have his works. Barry gave a brilliant lecture, much appreciated by his large audience of members

Carmen Beal.

Tuesday 14th March

Dr Janet Robson BA MA PhD lectured on

GIOTTO: THE LEGEND & THE REALITY

Dr. Robson emphasised the striking difference between Giotto's (c1266-1377) technique and that of his predecessors. Instead of the one-dimensional, iconic figures seen in earlier religious painting, Giotto introduced solid forms as seen in classical sculptures, using light and shade, naturalistic poses, realistic looking drapery and emotion. She traced his influence on High Renaissance artists, such as Michelangelo and Raphael. Because little is known about Giotto's early life, information had been gleaned from Vasari's *Lives of the Artists*, written two centuries later, much of which has been proved to be spurious and Dr. Robson managed to explain which early works may be attributed to him and his workshop, often using examples of his later works of similar, unusual, design. We were shown slides of details from the Arena Chapel in Padua, entirely covered in Giotto's frescos, all still in excellent condition and in Florentine chapels, some of which have deteriorated badly. Norma Luetchford expressed our thanks for an interesting lecture, which gave us an insight into the complexity, detail and innovation within Giotto's work.

Muriel Beaver

PAST LECTURES

Thursday 20th April Linda Casey lectured on **JACK VETTRIANO**

Linda had no qualms about overcoming a technical hitch by starting before any slides could be shown and kept us entertained throughout. Jack Vettriano is not recognised as a respectable artist by the cognoscenti, yet his works sell for high prices and he has been awarded an OBE. Linda questioned why this should be and reminded us that many artists have not been recognised during their lifetimes. She showed us many slides, illustrating his technique and unusual imagination, which leads to ambiguity and nostalgia for a past age, so that interpretation of many of his images is not easy. All this makes for interesting discussion and there were many questions and points raised, both before the slide lecture and following it. It was a stimulating evening.

Muriel Beaver

PAINTERS WORKSHOP

The Thursday Workshop continues for like-minded members, meeting to paint together. We have had two interesting demonstrations this term, street scene in Acrylic, and Mixed Media with textures.

There are amazingly varied ideas worked at in this group. My continuing thanks to those giving help to set up the room, and other needs. **Carmen**

FUTURE VISITS

REMINDER SUNDAY 21ST MAY OXBURGH HALL

Following our failure to get here in 2016 we will try again to visit Oxburgh Hall. It is a moated country house, built around 1482 by Sir Edmund Bedingfeld. It has always been a family home, not a fortress, and they have lived here ever since. It is a fine example of a late medieval, inward-facing great house. Inside see the astonishing needlework by Mary, Queen of Scots and the priest hole. There are a number of open rooms, including the library, saloon and armoury, with many items of furniture, ceramics and a large number of pictures including various Kings and members of the family. There is also a chapel with stained glass windows (some dating from the 14th century). Outside there is a parterre, herbaceous borders and a walled kitchen garden as well as grounds to explore. There is a restaurant and shop on the site.

Some places are still available, please contact Gary Harding (07949 141214)

ASAP if you would like to go on this visit.

Time: Depart: Radlett Post Office 9:30 am Arrive: Oxburgh Hall 12 pm

Depart: Oxburgh Hall 4 pm Arrive: Radlett 6:30 pm

Cost: NT Members £23 Guests £25 Gratuity included

Non NT Members £33 Non NT Guests £35

FUTURE VISITS

Sunday 18th June HEVER CASTLE

Dating back to the 13th century, Hever Castle was once the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, second wife of Henry VIII and Mother of Elizabeth I. It formed the unlikely backdrop to a sequence of tumultuous events that changed the course of Britain's history, monarchy and religion. Its panelled rooms house fine furniture, tapestries, antiques and what is regarded by David Starkey as 'one of the best collections of Tudor portraits after the National Portrait Gallery'. The Book of Hours Room beautifully illuminates two prayer books which belonged to Anne Boleyn and bear her inscriptions and signature. Today, much of what you see is the result of the remarkable efforts of William Waldorf Astor, who used his fortune to restore and extend the Castle in the early 20th century. The Astor Suite is dedicated to its more recent history, showcasing pictures and memorabilia relating to the Astor family and the Edwardian period. Hever Castle is what every child wants a castle to be: crenellated, moated and haunted. A permanent exhibition in the Long Gallery brings the 16th century to life with costumed figures illustrating key events in Anne's life at the Castle.

Time:	Depart: Radlett Post Office	10:15 am	Arrive Hever Castle	12 pm
	Depart: Hever Castle	16:00 pm	Arrive: Radlett	6:00 pm
Cost:	Members £33	Guests £35	Gratuity included	

Sunday 20th August CLARENCE HOUSE

Clarence House is the official London residence of The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall. Here Their Royal Highnesses receive official guests from this country and overseas on behalf of the nation, and bring together people from all walks of life through official seminars, lunches, receptions and dinners. Following Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother's death in April 2002 the Royal Household Property Services carried out a refurbishment and worked with organisations such as the Forest Stewardship Council to specify and buy sustainable materials and timber from responsibly managed forests. The internal decoration was carried out under the direction of the interior designer, Robert Kime who introduced new colour schemes and furnishings, while maintaining the familiar atmosphere of a much-loved family house. The arrangement of the rooms and the grouping of their contents remain recognisably as they were in Queen Elizabeth's time, with much of Her Majesty's collection of works of art and furniture in their former positions. Pictures include works by Veronese, Landseer, and Bogdani. We will be taken on a 1 hour guided tour of the five ground-floor rooms – The Lancaster Room, The Morning Room, The Library, The Dining Room and The Garden Room. Depending on the size of the group we may be broken into two or more tours starting at different times.

After our visit you can spend time in St James's Park or take a short walk to Trafalgar Sq where the National Gallery and National Portrait Gallery are situated.

Time:	Depart: Radlett Post Office	10:45 am	Arrive Clarence House	12 pm
	Depart: Clarence House	16:00 pm	Arrive: Radlett	5:15 pm
Cost:	Members £27	Guests £29	Gratuity included	

FUTURE VISITS

Sunday 24th September Snowhill Manor and Garden

Every room in Snowhill Manor is filled with hundreds of objects, from model boats and scary Samurais, to toys and an attic filled with bicycles. Wade gave each room a name, a theme and a certain purpose, without ever taking away from the interesting architectural details and features of this three-story manor being a trained, well-regarded architect himself. The Manor is to this day presented as Wade arranged it, a treasure trove of curiosities. The Garden is two acres and surrounds the Manor house, including formal lawns, colourful borders and water features - with autumn colour in September and October.

Time:	Depart: Radlett Post Office	9:30 am	Arrive Snowhill Manor
	Depart: Snowhill Manor	4:00 pm	Arrive: Radlett
Cost:	NT Members £22	Guests £24	Gratuity included
	Non NT Members £32.50	Non NT Guests £34.50	



Snowhill Manor

**Our trip to Osterley House has had to be moved to
Sunday 15th October
further details will be in the next Newsletter.**